AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

With paragraph [0006] on page 1, please amend the specification as follows:

In ~~recent, years~~ recent years, intensive studies have been made on artificial materials called biomaterials to be introduced in the human body for repairing damages therein. A variety of metal alloys and organic materials [[has]] have been used as the substitute for the hard tissues in the living body. However, it has been recognized that these materials tend to dissolve or otherwise deteriorate in the environment of living tissue and that these materials are toxic to the living body and cause a so called foreign body rejection reaction. Ceramic materials have been used because of their excellent compatibility with the living body and because they are typically free of the aforementioned difficulties. Artificial bones and teeth have been developed from ceramic materials, particularly alumina, carbon or tricalcium phosphate or from sintered masses or single crystal of hydroxyapatite which have superior compatibility with the living body. These embodiments have attracted a good deal of public attention. However, the conventional ceramic materials have a disadvantage in that the bone formation activity or bone filling process is relatively slow.

With paragraph [0016] on page 3, please amend the specification as follows:

In one embodiment of the invention, the bone grafting material comprises at least one bone morphogenetic protein (BMP). An advantage of the embodiment is that the administration of BMPs in combination with a pyrrolidone enhances bone formation in a synergistic manner. This affords advantages in terms of smaller amounts of the material needed for the desired effect, which is of great importance in view of the laborious production of especially [[rBMPs]] recombinant BMPs (rBMPs) in particular. Also, the risk of side effects decreases significantly when smaller amounts of foreign material can be used.